

Weekly Views

September 23, 2011

Chief of Staff Amanda Copeland is proud to announce the birth of her son, Stephen Cash Copeland. Stephen arrived at 9:45am on Wednesday, September 21, 2011 and came in weighing 7 lbs 2ozs and is 21 inches long. Mom and Stephen are doing well! While Chief Copeland is on leave, RDC Superintendent Tom Hanlon will serve as Acting Chief of Staff.

Future Solider and Venture Scout students at Pendleton Juvenile Correctional facility raised money for the Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence (ICADV). Students asked staff to sponsor them in a walkathon. They collectively raised \$400 for ICADV. One student was able to raise \$167 by himself.

Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility participated in Northeast Indiana Solid Waste Management District's Special Waste Collection Day. The purpose of these events is to safely dispose of unwanted problem waste and electronics from your home. Among the items that were collected included anything toxic, flammable, corrosive or poisonous, such as latex and oil based paints, stains, thinners, stripper, and antifreeze. Computer components, TVs, radios, and other electronics were also collected. Over three semi-trailers of waste was collected to be disposed of properly.

PLUS offenders sponsored a Steak Sandwich Sale at the Putnamville Correctional Facility. Coordinated by Case Manager K. Kumaran, over 740 orders were received from offenders in general population. The proceeds from the sale will be used to purchase tutorial DVDs and as charitable donations.

Edinburgh Correctional Facility Superintendent Fran Osburn is proud to announce the promotion of Tobias Foster to Unit Team Manager. Mr. Foster served as a five year active duty U.S. Air Force Security Forces Officer and is a veteran of the War on Terrorism. Following his service, Mr. Foster joined the Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) as a Custody Officer and, thereafter, a Counselor. He has held the positions of Custody Officer, Counselor, Programs/Re-Entry Coordinator, and Casework Manager in more than six years in the IDOC. Mr. Foster has also participated in the Experienced and Emerging Leadership program and is a Correctional Police Officer.

Three students from Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility participated in a community service project at the Anderson Police Department. The students performed general clean up as well as washed police vehicles.

Rockville Correctional Facility (RCF) hosted the first ever Cupcake War Bake Sale competition to benefit the Wabash Valley Race for the Cure. This event kicked off the State Employees' Community Campaign at RCF. Staff brought in homemade cupcakes for either the single cupcake competition or the multi-cake display competition. Single cupcake winners included Internal Affairs Investigator Steven Hazard winning first place with his carrot cake; Superintendent Stout and Assistant Superintendents Ferguson and Milner took second place for their cherry pie cupcake; and Aramark staff took third with a root beer float cupcake. Multi-cake display winners included Culinary Arts Instructor Sheila McKee in first place for "Old Swampy the Alligator"; Aramark staff in second place with "The Martians Have Landed"; and Casework Manager Christine Barclay in third place with "Corn on the Cob with Butter Pat". Staff were able to purchase the cupcakes and a silent auction was held for the multi-cake displays.

Renowned artist Emanuel Martinez began his "Art for Kids" project at Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility (MJCF). Every day students are chosen to assist Mr. Martinez create three large murals within the facility. To learn more about Mr. Martinez you can visit his website at www.emanuelmartinez.com. MJCF will host an "unveiling" of the project at its conclusion.

A Prosecutor, Judge, Probation Officers and Board Members from Starke County Community Corrections spent several hours with the staff and inmates of the Therapeutic Community at Westville Correctional Facility. They were impressed with the depth and intensity of the Purposeful Sentencing initiative.

Giving staff a taste of the coming fall season Miami Correctional Facility's Employee Appreciation Committee held a fundraiser, offering up sliced apples with caramel and apple cider. The committee holds food sales a couple times a month in order to raise money for their Family Fun Day in the summer.

Comedian and actor Mike Epps, along with Indianapolis Producer, Amp Harris, and Super Bowl 2012 Director of Communications Dianna Boyce visited the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility to meet the Naptown Knitters, a group of volunteers and IREF residents who meet twice a week to knit scarves for Super Bowl volunteers. Epps visited with residents, posed for pictures and signed autographs.

Evansville Indiana Red Hat Club members and Vincennes University (VU) students toured the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility, with both groups coming away with a better understanding of the re-entry process. Red Hat Club members remarked on the cleanliness of the facility and how much they liked the PLUS unit quilts. VU students said the educational tour gave them a better understanding of safety and security along with the importance of programming in preparing offenders for their return to society.